

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted preliminary to the issuance of an Office Action in the present application and in response to the final Official Action of April 18, 2007.

Record is also made of an interview between applicant's representative and the Examiner which took place on July 19, 2007. The Examiner is thanked for her help and assistance as well as for the courtesies extended to Counsel at that time. During the course of the interview, the present application (as well as the companion case Serial No.: 10/816,591) were extensively discussed in light of the final rejection of claims 29-31 in the instant case. During the interview, applicant's representative pointed out to the Examiner that the limitations of claims 29-31 and 33 are not found in the prior art. The Examiner indicated that if claim 29 were amended from the current product claim into a method claim and incorporated the limitation of claim 33, the application would be placed into a better condition for allowance.


As a result of the interview, applicant now submits new claim 41 which is drawn up in accordance with the agreement at the interview as recited above so as to overcome each and every objection or rejection to the claims as set forth in the Examiner's final Official Action of April 18, 2007, and since claims 29-31 are now canceled.

In view of the above, the presently pending claim 41 in this application is considered patentably differentiated over the prior art of record and believed to be in immediate conditions for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are thus respectfully requested.

With respect to the request for a complete certified priority document of DE 101 48 697.9, applicant submits that it will try to obtain the entire document. Applicant has changed its representatives and focus was foremost on the substantive response in view of the impending due dates. Applicant presently addresses the formal requirements and will comply shortly.

Should the Examiner consider necessary or desirable any formal changes anywhere in the specification, claims and/or drawing, then it is respectfully requested that such changes be made by Examiner's Amendment, if the Examiner feels this would facilitate passage of the case to issuance. If the Examiner feels that it might be helpful in advancing this case by calling the undersigned, applicant would greatly appreciate such a telephone interview.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: August 17, 2007
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